

MARCH, 1985



Plans have been set for the Disability Rally Day '85 activities. We invite everyone to travel to Austin for 2 days of orientation and advocacy with your State Senator and Representative. An agenda of the days' activities is provided in this newsletter.

On Monday morning, March 25th, The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities will be sponsoring a special information session on the CTD legislative priority issues and hosting a press conference on the attendant care issues. The press conference is scheduled for 9:00am. with the information session begining at 9:45am. The activities will be held in the Big Bend Room of the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Representatives of the CTD Legislative Committee will present updates on the legislative issues of attendant care, in-home services (primary home care and family care), the Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons' funding, TRC, TCD, TCB and MHMR budget requests, legislation for the primary caucus and local measured service.

Please plan to attend this session to prepare yourself for your visits to the Capitol. We plan to complete this session by 11:30 am. to allow you some time to visit with your legislator before the afternoon activities.

If you have any questions, please contact the CTD Central office 512/ 443-8252. We look forward to seeing all of you for Rally Day '85.

TOD

STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE BILLS

SB 390 - Gas Station Service for Disabled Drivers

Senate The Senate State Affairs Committee heard public testimony and received calls and letters of support from many representatives of the disability community. But on March 4th the Bill did not receive enough votes to get reported out of the Senate State Affairs Communittee. (A more detailed article on this issue will appear in the CTD Quarterly Newsletter.)

STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE BILLS

SB 46 - moratorium on Local Measured Service (LMS) until 9/1/90

- Senate Sponsor(and author): Chet Edwards (Dem, Dist. 9, Duncanville). Referred to Economic Development Committee. No hearings scheduled yet. Support mounting. Only 1 more favorable member needed for bill to pass committee.
- House Sponsor: Charles Evans (Dem., Dist.92, Hurst). Referred to Science and Technology Committee. No hearings scheduled yet. Waiting for Senate action.

☆ COMING ATTRACTIONS ☆





TRANSPORTATION WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 20th has been set for the CTD Transportation Workshop. The Workshop will be held in San Antonio (location to be announced) and will include presentations on the accomplishments in the past, the situation in the present and possibilities for the future in public transportation. The Workshop will address the issues of the mobility impaired, the concerns of the visually impaired and why some organizations are adopting civil disobedience to accomplish their goals. The workshop will be free and open to the public, registration information will be sent in the near future. Mark your calender and plan to attend.

CTD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET

The CTD Board of Directors will hold their quarterly meeting in Crockett Texas on March 22-24, 1985. On Saturday morning, we will hold a consumer forum to meet with local residents to discuss their concerns. The forum and meeting will be held at the Crockett Inn. For more information contact the CTD Central office.

CTD's Editor's Note:

The <u>CTD News</u> is edited and published monthly by the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, a state-wide cross disability consumer group. Any member who wishes to submit future articles for publication should send them to: CTD, P.O. Box 4709, Austin, Texas 78765. The deadline for submitting articles is the first of each month for that month's edition.

Letters



Coalition of Texans with Disabilities P.O. Box 4709 Austin, Texas 78765

(512) 443-8252 V/TTY

February 16, 1985

Steve Currier, President MIGHT P.O. Box 5746 Austin, TX 78763

Dear Steve,

Your letter will be in the next monthly bulletin. CTD's official position on the transportation issue is to support the bi-modal approach. Obviously, not all disabled persons can use the fixed-route systems. After carefully reading Jim's latter in the bulletin, I believe that he expressed support for CTD's position. As a matter of fact, CTD's position was taken by approving a position paper written by Jim in 1982.

Just as only having 100% accessible buses will not meet all the needs, neither does having only para-transit systems. The fact is that there is not <u>one</u> para-transit in Texas, or anywhere else probably, that is meeting the needs of disabled persons. In Amarillo, for example, the para-transit system is owned and operated by a private agency. Its funds come from federal grants and local contracts which place restrictions on who can use the service and for what reason. I cannot use the service at all and <u>no one</u> can be transported to and from work or school. The city, however, claims that because they bought a lift equipped van for the agency four years ago that it has fulfilled its legal obgligation to provide transportation for disabled citizens. I certainly do not consider this equal access! And Agarillo's situation is typical.

It seems to me that squabbling over the issue among ourselves will only give APTA, the government and transit systems an excuse and a weapon for doing nothing about the problem.

Jim Parker and CTD supports equal access to public transportation for <u>all</u> disabled Texans. We agree that,

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WE WILL ALL RIDE,

Marshall Mitchell

Marshall Mitchell, President

(To 8th Annual Convention September 28-29 1985

DISABILITY RALLY DAY 1985

AGENDA ad 10 million and 10 million

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING AND RECEPTION Monday, March 25, 1985 — Hyatt Regency Hotel, Austin

- 2:00-2:15 p.m. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS Bobby Simpson, Chairperson, Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons
- 2:15-4:15 p.m. PANEL DISCUSSION ON FUNDING AND ISSUES Chairman: Jim Oliver, Director, Legislative Budget Office Members:

interest you or your organization.

James Adkins, Executive Deputy Commissioner Texas Department of Mental Health & Mental Retardation Tom Anderson, Deputy Commissioner, Texas Education Agency Vernon M. Arrell, Commissioner, Texas Rehabilitation Commission Robert Bernstein, M.D., Commissioner, Texas Department of Health Marlin Johnston, Commissioner, Texas Department of Human Resources Fred R. Tammen, Executive Director, Texas Commission for the Deaf John C. Wilson, Executive Director, Texas Commission for the Blind

- 4:15-4:30 p.m. REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES Judge Bob Thomas, Chairman, Council on Disabilities
- 4:30-5:00 p.m. *GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS The Honorable Mark White
- 5:30-7:30 p.m. INFORMAL RECEPTION AND SOCIAL HOUR HONORING MEMBERS OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE

CEREMONIES AT THE STATE CAPITOL Tuesday, March 26, 1985

Between	Korday, March 15, 1995
10:00-10:30 a.m.	**READING OF RALLY DAY RESOLUTION (In House and Senate Chambers) READING OF RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SILVER MEDALIST RANDY SNOW
	(In the Senate Chamber)
12:00-12:45 p.m.	WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS BY THE MASTER OF CEREMONIES AND GUEST SPEAKERS
	(Front steps of Supreme Court Building, Northwest of Capitol Building)
	*The Honorable William P. Hobby, Jr. *The Honorable Don Lee
	The Honorable Chet Brooks *The Honorable Terral Smith
	The Honorable Gonzalo Barrientos
12:45-1:00 p.m.	KEYNOTE ADDRESS
	Dr. James Caldwell
1:00-1:15 p.m.	INTERPRETING SONGS WITH SIGN

Cindy Cochran

*Confirmation of participation is pending.

* * Refer to last page to obtain further information about House and Senate sessions.

ACTIVITIES SURROUNDING RALLY DAY

The following activities will be happening in conjunction with Disability Rally Day. Please attend all activities which interest you or your organization. Once again, MAKE YOUR PRESENCE KNOWN IN AUSTIN!

Sunday, March 24, 1985 "Special People's Fair"

The Austin Townlake YMCA will be hosting this event Sunday, from 12:30-4:30 p.m. Admission is free. There will be a variety of booths, activities, and general information sharing which will be of interest to persons with disabilities, and their advocates.

For more information: Contact: Nina Mackta Townlake YMCA 1100 West First Street Austin, TX 78703 Phone: 512/476-6705

Wheelchair Basketball

Austin's own River City Rec.'ers will be playing two exhibition games on Sunday at 1:00 p.m. and at 3:00 p.m. The gym will be open at 12:00 p.m. and admission is free. The games will be held REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON DISABILITI at the: South Austin Recreation Center and another and another and applied 1100 Cumberland Austin, TX

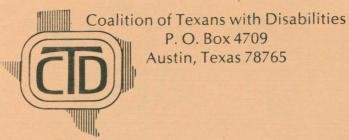
For more information: Contact: Will Clark Adaptive Programs Austin Parks and Recreation P.O. Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767 Phone: 512/453-7236

Monday, March 25, 1985

Coalition of Texans With Disabilities CTD will be meeting at the Hyatt on Monday from 10:00 a.m. til 1:00 p.m. to discuss their legislative priority issues. For more information: Contact: Jean Langendorf Coalition of Texans With Disabilities P.O. Box 4709 Austin, TX 78765 Phone: 512/443-8252

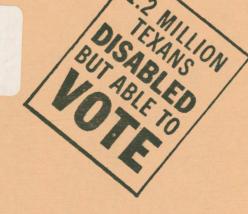
Tuesday, March 26, 1985

Association for Retarded Citizens of Texas ARC will hold a Breakfast Briefing at the Stephen F. Austin Hotel from 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the Terrace Room. For more information: Contact: Norine Jaloway Association for Retarded Citizens of Texas 833 Houston Street Austin, TX 78756 Phone: 512/454-6694



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